

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Yasuhiro SAKAI et al.

Serial No.:

10/803,667

Filed: March 18, 2004

For:

Method of Staining, and Detecting and Counting

Bacteria, and a Diluent for Bacterial Stain

Examiner: F. C. Prats Group Art: 1651

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

October 24, 2006 (Date of Deposit)

Kent H. Cheng

Name of applicant, as ignee or Registered Representative

October 24, 2006 Date of Signature

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR OR MADAM:

RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action dated September 28, 2006, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.